

Finance Committee Minutes – 12/9/2015

The meeting began at 11:00 AM. Finance Committee members in attendance were Jim Consolati and Tonio Palmer. Also in attendance was Steve Cohen. Jim Consolati prepared the minutes for this meeting.

Broadband Engineering and Planning

The Finance Committee reviewed the quote from Mid-Hudson Data for system design and engineering, which would result in build-ready plans for the town's broadband network. In accordance with the vote at special town meeting and subsequent authorization by the select Board, the Finance Committee voted to go ahead with Mid-Hudson's proposal. The Finance Committee authorized an initial payment equal to 25% of the contract price with the balance to be paid upon completion of the project. Mid-Hudson expects work to be completed by March 1, 2016.

Town Comparisons

The Finance Committee agreed to move ahead with Steve Cohen's offer to prepare comparisons with other similarly situated towns for selected major budget items. The Finance Committee will provide Steve with a list of towns for comparison purposes.

Priorities for 2016 Annual Town Meeting

Tentative priorities and time lines were established for the 2016 Annual Town Meeting. All will be discussed with the Select Board before any action is taken. Major items include: town grounds and buildings; highway projects; broadband initiative; continuation of compensation reviews for employees, elected officials and committee members; and timing of informational meetings to be held prior to the annual town meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM.